

Community Members Interested (COMMITTED) is a tax-exempt non-profit organization registered in the US under section 501-(C)(3) of the US IRS Code, and COMMITTED-Nepal is an approved non-governmental organization (NGO) under Social Welfare Council (SWC) regulations of the Government of Nepal. In unison COMMITTED strives to ensure free quality education to children in communities we serve as part of our Sikchya Mero Adhikar (Education-My Right) campaign. COMMITTED collaborates with communities--through a comprehensive community planning process--to set up Social Business for Education (SBE) projects. In addition to financing education of the children, SBE projects also finance community development projects, address livelihood issues and foster awareness of, and consideration for, the conservation and sustainability of natural resources and environment.

January 01, 2015 - December 31, 2015

COMMITTED- US	
Income:	US\$
Earthquake Relief Donation	
Corporate Donation:	
Main Street School, Irvington	985.55
Greenville School Donation	2,008.00
Bill & Melinda Foundation	6,000.00
NVIDIA- Employee Giving Programs	700.00
We Care Act	1,900.00
Network for Good	341.88
International Spanish Language Academy	429.00
FRONTSTREAM	25.00
Benevity Community Impact Fund	1,334.00
Individual Donation	53,950.03
Accured Income	2,698.01
Total Income	70,371.47
Expense:	
Nepal Project Expense	15,421.00
Project Monitoring Expense	3,000.00
Website & Domain	273.74
Registration & Renewal	55.00
Bank Fees	105.00
WePay Fees	180.40
Paypal Fees	1,224.53
Other registration fees	100.00
Total Expense	20,359.67

July 16, 2015 - July 15, 2016

COMMITTED- NEPAL	
INCOME	NPR
Grants	
Give2Asia	27,367,604.00
Western Union	1,059,500.00
COMMITTED US	2,116,000.00
Nepal Rising	2,131,000.00
NEMIRA	16,334.45
Disaster Relief Fund	79,378.00
Child Anti Trafficking	800,000.00
Alice Sieun Park	1,749,903.10
German Embassy	278,998.96
Canadian Group Support	100,000.00
Himalayan Bank Ltd.	150,000.00
Individual & Corporates	385,317.16
Interest Earned	355,028.02
TOTAL INCOME	36,589,063.69
EXPENSES	
ADMINISTRATIVE/ OP. EXPENSE (NOT COVERED BY PROJECTS)	
Salary	169,000.00
Provident Fund	92,894.00
Rent	15,000.00
Utilities	5,840.00
Communication/Newspaper/Internet	11,856.00
Legal & Fees	80,870.21
Repair / Maintenance	33,171.00
Local Transportation	17,711.00
Non Durable Assets	2,975.00
Office Expenses and Renewals	26,600.09
SUB TOTAL	455,917.30
PROJECT EXPENSES	
Local Governance	5,347,616.00
SIP: School Construction & Repairing	9,216,334.47
SIP: Scholarship Program	134,980.00
SIP: Star Reader/ Writer Program	262,069.00
SBE: Community Fishery	287,160.30
Disaster Relief Activities	245,464.25
SUB TOTAL	15,493,624.02
TOTAL EXPENSES	15,949,541.32

Note: Financial Activities reported for COMMITTED U.S. and COMMITTED-Nepal are for two different time frames due to varying legal accounting periods.

Dear COMMITTED Supporters,

COMMITTED has taken great strides and touched many lives in the last one year. Your continued support has assisted us to respond greatly in the areas needing much help, especially vulnerable children during the post earthquake stage. The 2015 earthquake devastated many regions of Nepal with Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha, and Dolakha being hit the hardest. Sixty four students and five staff members perished and eighty six percent of the school infrastructure in the area we work—Ilaka 12 of Sindhupalchowk District, were destroyed. The earthquake left behind rubble from improvements COMMITTED lovingly helped put together, including many libraries, science labs, WASH facilities, classrooms and even playgrounds. Many school improvement programs at various schools as a part of our School Improvement Program (SIP) such as the Star Reader/Writer and the Fishery as a Social Business for Education Programs were badly hit by the earthquake. But it gives me great pleasure to announce that we are on our way to normalcy.

The entire focus during this report period was focused towards rebuilding the many lives torn apart by the 7.8 Richter Scale earthquake. We were one of the few organizations that set foot in this devastated area immediate to the earthquake. After making a quick assessment of the damage, we responded holistically to ensure the affected families living out of their broken homes were provided with immediate relief—tarpaulin sheets and corrugated sheets for shelter, rice, lentil, oil, noodles, and other snack items for food, health and hygiene related items including first aid supplies and toilet sanitation needs such as soap and disinfectants, and solar based device recharging stations to restore communications. Our response is greatly appreciated by the entire population of Thangpalkot VDC and beyond. A specific mention from the VDC office is that our work was inclusive—in the senses that we managed to reach out to each and every household within the VDC, very different from many other organizations who helped but failed to respond in a comprehensive manner, causing many disputes among the communities. Another appreciative beneficiary was the local police personnel who were able to utilize the charging stations, for their security and in response devices, installed by COMMITTED at all the wards.

From the immediate relief and response COMMITTED’s focus then shifted towards the establishment of Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) as a solution to keep the children in school. It was a time of unimaginable fears as the tremor continued and as family members struggled to keep families together. Many migrated to the cities in search of safe landings, and many stayed behind but were deeply concerned as child trafficking loomed as a result of unavailable classrooms and schools that remained closed. COMMITTED responded to the Department of Education’s calls to rebuild the schools by partnering with them to first build TLCs with the objective of getting the children back inside classrooms and by conducting programs to help children fight trauma and bring life to normalcy. We helped build four TLCs and conducted many fun games and programs, provided books and learning material during this difficult period. We believe COMMITTED and many other local NGOs prevented a bigger trafficking catastrophe by assisting schools return to normalcy. Moving on from TLCs COMMITTED pledged to help reconstruct all schools within Thangpalkot VDC and beyond. As a result up to date we have built the entire Taltuleswori Primary School from scratch, built two blocks (four classrooms) for Chilaune Secondary School and gearing to rebuild Raithane Secondary School.

As of today, we can proudly say that we have contributed towards restoration of all schools within Thangpalkot to normalcy, and in fact bigger and better. There are many more schools outside Thangpalkot needing help with rebuilding and we aim to stay strong and extend our pledge to these five VDCs. In addition there is much work still awaiting restoration, such as the Fishery SBE project as well as the Star Reader/Writer project. We have initiated the steps and confident we are able to bring all lives back to normalcy and even better. I would like to thank all who supported and encouraged us during this difficult period. Our efforts during the difficult period was not as simple as helping others, but being able to do this when our staff members were also traumatized and in process of rebuilding their own grounds. It was not easy, but we believe without your encouragement and support it would have been a futile effort.

Sincerely,



Jayjeev Hada

Founder/Chairperson—COMMITTED U.S.

Founder/Executive Director—COMMITTED Nepal

	COMMITTED U.S.	COMMITTED Nepal
Founder	Jayjeev Hada	
Chairperson	Jayjeev Hada	Dinesh L. Shrestha
Vice-chairperson	Atulya Dhungana	Sanjeev Hada
General Secretary	Ritima Pradhan	Ritima Pradhan
Treasurer	Johana Shah	Dhruba M. Pradhan
Member	-	Rajasudan Pradhan
Member	-	Subina Shrestha
Member	-	Kabita Lissanevitch

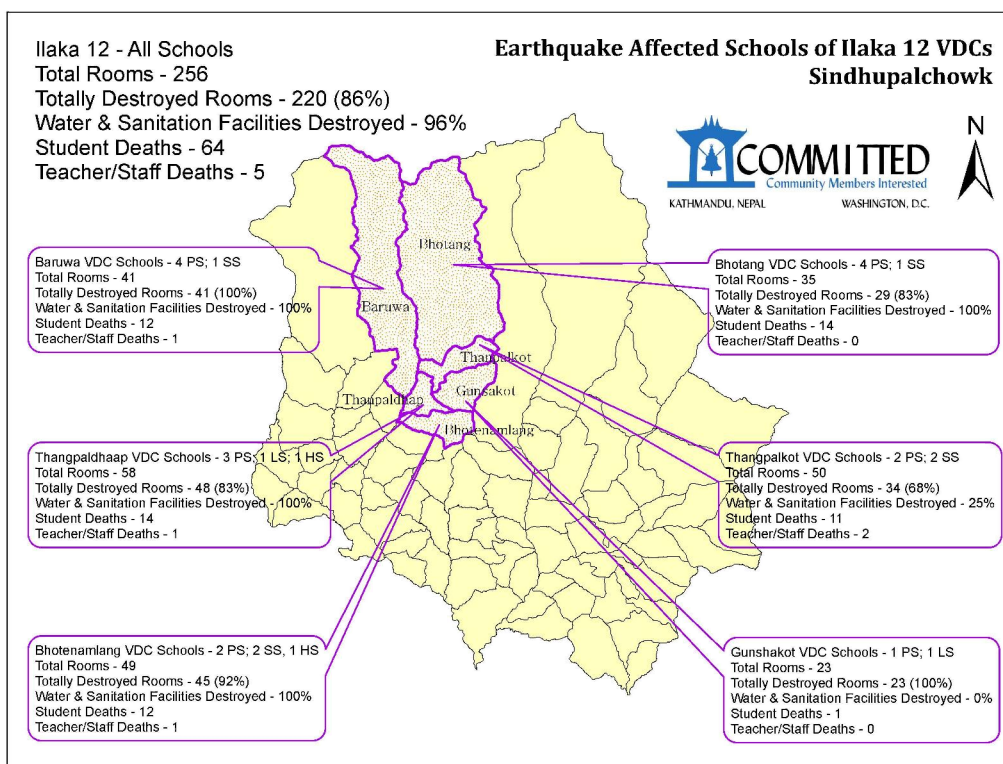
Our Focus

COMMITTED’s focus are in the areas of Education and Poverty Reduction under its Sikchya Mero Adhikar (Education-My Right) campaign which believes that education is a basic human right of all children and that it should be free and of quality. Under this umbrella COMMITTED is implementing its three programs—School Improvement Program (SIP), Social Business for Education and Community Development (SBECD) program; and Local Governance and Service Delivery (LGSD) with interest on education. SIP seeks to provide quality education with infrastructure and other curriculum and management related improvements. The SBE program seeks to provide self-sustainability to schools and help offset the burden on school administrators. COMMITTED collaborates with communities--through a comprehensive community planning process--to set up SBECD projects. In addition to financing education of the children, SBE projects also finance community development projects, address livelihood issues and foster awareness of, and consideration for, the conservation and sustainability of natural resources and environment. In 2015-16 we added the LGSD component to improve governance and accountability within local body functions.

Activities

1. Bringing Back Classrooms

All four schools supported by COMMITTED - Shree Raithane Secondary, Shree Chilaune Secondary, Shree Taltuleshwori Primary, and Shree Satkanya Primary faced substantial devastation due to the disaster. Majority of the school structures and buildings were severely damaged. Within this VDC sixty eight percent of class rooms (34 out of 50) and twenty four percent of water and sanitation were destroyed. COMMITTED partnered with the Department of Education (DoE), District Level Education Office (DEO) of Sindhupalchowk, other NGOs and local groups to start the



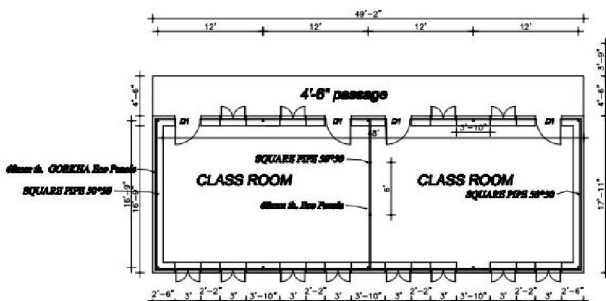
process of getting the children of Thangpalkot back to the classroom environment. COMMITTED assisted in building three TLCs and classroom material to reduce the risk of vulnerable children dropping out of school as well as being trafficked. All school operations were disrupted due to the earthquake and because the school structures including the class-rooms and other critical facilities were destroyed, the children and the teachers were hesitant to return to classrooms. Because creating a conducive environment for the children to return to the classrooms was very critical, Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) were constructed for the four schools. The TLCs were established with bamboo frames and CGI sheets. They were set up with the help of COMMITTED’s volunteers, local village community, school staff, the Nepal Army, and the Armed Police Force.

2. Reconstruction of Schools



During this report period COMMITTED built Shree Taltuleswori Basic School in its entirety, including provisions for a kitchen and a dining area. The school is designed with the purpose of sheltering surrounding community members during future emergency related incidents, and also as approved by DoE standards. One hundred eighty five primary school going children from wards 1 & 2 attend this school and are now benefitting with a new and enhanced school facilities. A play ground and the renovation of another preexisting block is in the pipeline in 2016-17.

Another school reconstruction activity was completed at Shree Chilaune Secondary School. Two full classroom blocks, (4 classrooms) were renovated and repaired. These four rooms are now in full operation providing much relief to the school population of approximately 250 students. A staff room, play ground facility, security fence, and WASH needs are in the 2016-17 pipeline.



Shree Raithane Secondary is another school severely affected by the earthquake. While eight classrooms have been built by another organization, because of delays regarding school and DoE processes, the decision to entirely demolish and existing structure has finally been made. COMMITTED will be looking into rebuilding an eight room, two story structure in 2016-17.

Community Fishery Scale Up at Thangpalkot VDC

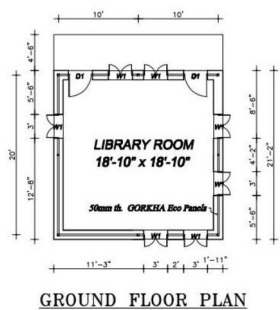
Operation wise the community fishery scale up continues to be put on hold due to the earthquake devastations. The two nurseries were partially damaged but have been repaired with funds made available by the German Embassy. The local shareholders of the fishery have spent a portion of their funds to pay for two years' rent to the land owner, indicating their interest in the scale-up and bringing the entire operation back to life. Along with the community fishery to benefit the school community, willing local farmers were trained in the past and future refresher trainings will be provided to adopt fish farming as a livelihood opportunity. The training is enabling the farmers to jump to cash crop based farming. The fish nursery supplies fingerlings to individual farmers interested in fishery in their private farms. Surplus fingerlings are stocked in the community pond for production. Income from the production pond and the sale of fingerlings are being used to meet deficient operational costs for the Raithane School. This community fish farm will also be used as a training to center to not only train the farmers but also adolescent school going children as a life skill learning course with certification. The people involved in the fishery committee are also investing approximately Rs. 100,000 towards the fishery operations. While these are all goals of the project, they are expected to be brought into action from 2016-17 onwards.

A critical component of the project is the inclusion of a farmers' market, in which local farmers including the fish farmers will be allowed to put up stalls twice a week to sell their produce. Through advertisement of the marketplace (Haatbazaar) in the local radio and other outlets, it will not only help sell the local produce including the fish, but also help vitalize the local economy. The 'haatbazaar' venue has been built but activities not conducted yet because of the earthquake. When in operation, the market will be managed by the VDC, thereby assisting the local body with additional resources. Such a 'haatbazaar' will be the first of its kind in the entire Sindhupalchowk District. A fish farmers' group will also be established to link the locally harvested fish with the nearby towns and market places, and also to establish linkages and support from the government agencies associated with fish farming. This haatbazaar facility provided considerable relief to the community as it served as a shelter to many families including the security personnel deployed during the post disaster stage.

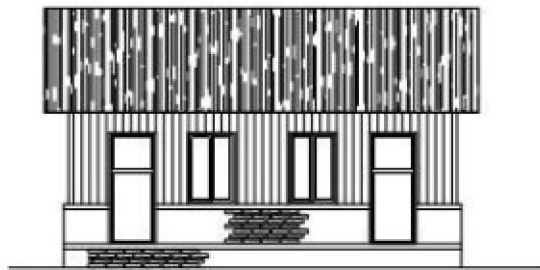


Accountability & Transparency in the School Governance System

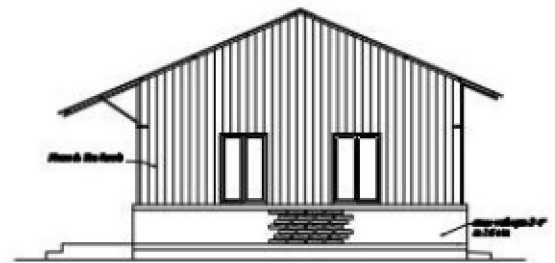
Since April 2015, COMMITTED has initiated its first project under its Local Governance and Service Delivery Program and it focuses on the governance of the public school system of Ilaka 12, Sindhupalchowk District. Funded by Give 2 Asia, the intent of the project is to improve the public education system in Nepal in the post earthquake stage. This is envisioned with intervention in the school governance system by establishing accountability and transparency using Right to Information (RTI) as a tool. The project brings the Village Education Committee (VEC), with function similar to School Boards, into full operation and taking lead in the entire VDC's education development. All school administrators will be required to report mandated school related data to the VEC during its monthly meetings and answer all questions posed by VEC and other relevant education actors. As a part of the framework, all school administrators and School Management Committees will be trained on RTI processes to help them access and provide information as granted by the RTI Act. With fulfillment of the space needed for VEC operations, it will also assist towards rebuilding school infrastructure with the construction of library infrastructure at the schools devastated by the earthquake. These structures will be built in accordance with requirements as mandated and will also house VEC operations.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

Ahead in 2016-17

School Reconstruction

A major effort will be diverted towards the rebuilding of 5 schools and the establishment of 17 school libraries within Ilaka 12, Sindhupalchowk District. COMMITTED has been directly involved with the reconstruction of two schools so far and another school in the 2016-17 period is in the making. There are nine schools with libraries built by COMMITTED in the post earthquake stage. COMMITTED is designated as one of many NGOs assigned with the critical task of rebuilding the schools within Ilaka 12 and to get schools back in normal operations.

Fishery Expansion

After fixing much of infrastructure damage, the entire operation will be rekindled in 2016-17. The concept is to raise awareness regarding the need to jump to cash crop based farming among community farmers and the assist them in making the jump with technical and other necessary resources. The fish nursery and the two schools that have adopted fisheries to generate income will be provided support to improve their operations. In addition, other schools in the area will also be encouraged and supported to adopt fishery or other similar approaches for sustainable income. The much planned Haatbazaar will also be brought into operation. The structure and haatbazaar related operational guidelines will be brought into action in 2016-17.

Local Governance and Participatory Planning

As a part of the Local Governance and Service Delivery Program, the project—Accountability & Transparency in the School Governance System will be carried out in which issues in school governance, mostly with mismatch in resource utilization, false data reporting, and incompetence in managing schools and their development will be addressed. COMMITTED is seeking to initiate a school governance related program in which the Village Education Committee is strengthened in which the VEC members, DEO Resource Persons, school managers and other civil society members are all brought under a single umbrella to participate in the planning and management of all schools within the local jurisdiction. At this venue school data validation, planning, and development of schools will be sorted. This will not only streamline all education related activities, but also make adequate use of valuable resources provide by the DEO such as the Resource Person who is assigned to build capacity of school teachers and administrators as well as serve as a critical link between the government and public schools. Currently, the resource persons are too stretched to utilize their expertise. The project also seeks to build library structures at all VDCs to house VEC operations. This component will not only aids in the VEC's operations but also provides space for the installation of libraries at the schools devastated by the earthquake.